



DIPLOMA

# Theory of Knowledge 2020

## Your handy guide to the changes

Sue Bastian, the architect of the original TOK curriculum shares her summary of the September 2020 changes and what they mean for you!



### Core theme: Knowledge and the Knower

Me as a knower and a thinker

My perspective, assumptions and biases

Where do our values come from?

How can we navigate the world?

How can we tell when we are being manipulated/"spun"?

### Optional themes

Knowledge and Technology

Knowledge and Language

Knowledge and Indigenous Societies

Knowledge and Politics

Knowledge and Religion

### Areas of knowledge

History

The Human Sciences

The Natural Sciences

Mathematics

The Arts

## What's changed?

### Areas of knowledge reduced

from **8** to **5**

1. History
2. Human Sciences
3. Natural Sciences
4. Mathematics
5. Arts

ALL 5 AREAS OF KNOWLEDGE ARE NOW COMPULSORY

### Choice of 2 of 5 optional themes

- Knowledge and Technology,
- Knowledge and Language,
- Knowledge and Indigenous Societies,
- Knowledge and Politics,
- Knowledge and Religion

### New compulsory core theme *Knowledge and the Knower*

Students will not be expected to formulate their own knowledge questions for assessments.

Finally, there will be more effective teacher support provided to deliver the new TOK course.

### New compulsory knowledge framework

- Scope
- Perspectives
- Methods and tools
- Ethics

Ethics will become a continuous thread that runs throughout the new course. It will become compulsory but will no longer be a standalone AOK.

## New assessment

### The essay will remain...

however titles will become more accessible, and viewed as pre-set knowledge questions.

### New exhibition internal assessment replacing the presentation

Students select a knowledge question from a list of prompts and curate an exhibition of three 'objects'.

Students provide commentaries about how their objects show the manifestation of their knowledge question in the world.

Commentaries will be moderated.

## Six key features to look out for:

1

5 compulsory AOKs

2

5 optional themes (pick 2)

3

Emphasis on WOKs in context

4

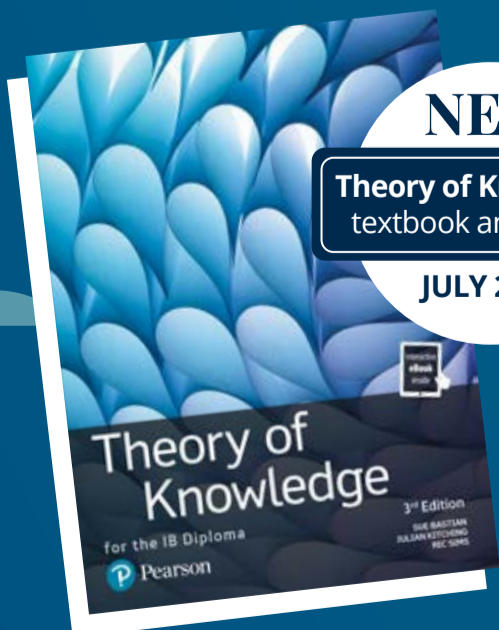
The knowledge framework

5

Global impression marking

6

Changes to assessment



NEW

Theory of Knowledge textbook and eBook

JULY 2020

Support your learners as they explore TOK in line with the new Guide for first teaching in September 2020.

Extremely experienced authoring reviewers of examiners, curriculum reviewers and workshop leaders – Sue Bastian, Julian Kitching and Ric Sims.

Provides full coverage of the 2020 curriculum Guide including the Core, Optional themes, and Areas of knowledge.



Pearson

Take a look at sample units at: [www.pearsonglobalschools.com/ib](http://www.pearsonglobalschools.com/ib)